

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 AID-05 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06

CCO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 SCA-01 PC-01 IO-13 NEA-10 SY-05

USSS-00 EB-07 OMB-01 /124 W
----- 109573

O 121530Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3639

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIOROTY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

CINCEUR PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, ZA, SF

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF SAG MILITARY ACTION

1. ZAMBIAN TV EVENING JULY 11 AND LOCAL PRESS JULY 12 REPORTED THAT, ACCORDING TO A STATE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT, SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS BOMBED SIALOLA, NEAR KAONGAMASHI, WESTERN PROVINCE IN AREA NEAR CONJUNCTION OF NAMIBIAN, ZAMBIAN, ANGOLAN BORDERS. STATE HOUSE SPOKESMAN CONDEMNED ACT AS "BARBAROUS
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AND A FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF ZAMBIA'S SOVEREIGNTY", AND SAID

DETAILS OF CASUALTIES TO BE RELEASED LATER.

2. COMMENT: WHILE ACCOUNT MENTIONS BOMBING BY SAG, THERE NO SUGGESTION IN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SAG AIRCRAFT INVOLVED. LIKELIHOOD SOME SORT OF INCIDENT, AS DESCRIBED, MAY HAVE OCCURRED INDIRECTLY CORROBORATED BY FACT SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA SUMMONED TO MEET PRESIDENT ON URGENT BASIS SUNDAY AT NOON. CONTINUED UNUSUAL STIRRING WITHIN ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT SUGGESTED BY LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION OF FONMIN MWALE'S 0900 JULY 12 MEETING WITH CODEL SOLARZ AND CONVOCAION OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE URGENT CABINET MEETING AT STATE HOUSE.

3. CONFUSION OVER CLEARANCE FOR DATT AIRCRAFT PRETORIA TO PROCEED LUSAKA JULY 11 ALSO INDICATIVE OF ZAMBIAN HEIGHTENED CONCERN FOR SECURITY. AIRCRAFT TURNED BACK FROM ZAMBIA BORDER AFTERNOON JULY 11. IN ATTEMPT TO REINSTITUTE CLEARANCE, AMBASSADOR AND DCM WERE INFORMED BY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL THAT PLANE HAD BEEN TURNED BACK AT INSTRUCTION ZAMBIAN AIR FORCE WHICH SENSITIVE TO ANY MILITARY TYPE AIRCRAFT PENETRATING ZAMBIAN AIRSPACE SINCE ISRAELI RESCUE OPERATION ENTEBBE. CLEARANCES, REINSTITUTED, ACCORDING TO CHIEF OF PROTOCOL BY COMMANDER OF ZAMBIAN AIR FORCE PERSONALLY. WE SUSPECT CHIEF OF PROTOCOL'S REFERENCE TO ENTEBBE COVERED CONCERNS GENERATED BY REPORTED INCIDENT REFERRED TO ABOVE IN WESTERN PROVINCE.
WILKOWSKI

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 12 JUL 1976
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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